AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

Entered as second-class matter September 26, 1912, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C., under the Act of August 24, 1912. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in Sec. 1103, Act of October 3, 1917, authorized July 12, 1918.

WHOLE NO. 1209 — WILLIAM GREEN, President — WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, JUNE 16, 1934 — FRANK MORRISON, Secretary — VOL. 24, NO. 24

None should expect to prosper who go out of the way of duty. —Aughey.

Editorials

Extending Workers' Education

The Division of Emergency Education Programs of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration is rendering valuable assistance to the practical education of working men and women not only in the problems which confront them in their efforts to earn a living, but also in the broader field of understanding the causes of the depression, to the end that our democratic institutions may be saved by the protection they give to the inherent rights of the masses to decent living standards, liberty in all of its aspects, and the happiness that naturally follows the acquisition of these essentials.

By means of labor institutes and workers' schools, financially sponsored with Federal funds, solid and substantial information on economic problems, including occupational questions, is being supplied to thousands of toilers who would not otherwise have the advantages which this knowledge gives.

In outlining the underlying policy in making practical education available for those who do most of the useful work in our complex economic system, Dr. L. R. Alderman, Director of Emergency Education Programs of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, says the important thing is "to make the public schools fit the needs of all our people." Inasmuch as most of the people work for a living, special importance should be placed on making the schools fit the needs of working men and women. On this point Dr. Alderman says:

"I think that workers' education at this time has this two-fold mission, first to help prepare the public schools for groups of organized workers and then to extend to these organized workers the right kind of an invitation to attend."

He points out that our 256,104 school plants should be the means of bringing about a "new understanding of our problems among our whole people that would make democracy stronger."

To assist in this commendable plan the Division of Emergency Education Programs publishes a monthly bulletin, "Workers Education." It includes news regarding workers' classes in all parts of the country, articles on resident schools here and abroad and articles by persons actively engaged in workers' education. Every worker, and especially every trade unionist, should read this bulletin regularly. Requests for it should be sent to the Specialist in Workers' Education, 1734 New York Avenue, Washington, D. C.

Choosing Collective Bargaining Agencies

The persistent ballyhoo of anti-union employers that workers favor the notorious company union was given a clear knock-out in the election of a collective bargaining agency by the employes of the Tennessee Public Service Company of Knoxville, Tenn.

Two American Federation of Labor unions and two company unions were on the ballot. The A. F. of L. unions were the Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes of America and the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers. The company unions were the Street Car and Bus Operators' Union of the Transportation Department of the Tennessee Public Service Company and the Distribution Department Employes' Protective Association of that company. Out of 277 effective ballots cast, 161 were for the A. F. of L. unions and 116 for the company unions, a clear majority of 45 for bona fide trade unionism.

The tabulation of the votes gave the following figures: Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes of America, A. F. of L. union, 99 votes; Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, A. F. of L. union, 62 votes; Street Car and Bus Operators Union, company union, 86 votes; Distribution Department Employes' Protective Association, company union, 41 votes. Eight contested votes were not counted.

The election was held by secret ballot under the supervision of Thos. M. Finn, of the U. S. Conciliation Service, who declared that the voting was conducted on a high plane and in strict accordance with Section 7-A of the National Industrial Recovery Act. The ballots distinctly stated that the two bona fide unions were affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

It is this kind of an election, held under the supervision of a suitable representative of the Federal Government, which the bourbon anti-union employers throughout the United States are fighting tooth and nail.

TRAGEDY OF COPPER MINE FIRES RELATED BY COLLEGE PROFESSOR

Details of Granite Mountain Disaster in Montana Which Death to 163 Workers Trapped in the Bowels of the Earth.

The constantly recurring tragedy of death to miners by preventable mine fires and explosions is pathetically described in Scribner's Magazine by Wallace Nyland, an instructor in the University of Colorado, who relates some of his reminiscences of miners' lives in the copper camps of Montana during the early 1900's.

Mr. Nyland's parents came from Finland. He's father contracted consumption in the Butte mines and died at 42. Emil Anderson, a friend of the family, remained. Then, one morning before dawn, the news spread that the 1,800-foot broken out at the Granite Mountain mine where Emil worked. A part of Mr. Nyland's story of the disaster follows:

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Fire Breaks Out

"The returning miners said that the whole mine was on fire and that over half of the four hundred on the night shift had perished. While the rising sun streaked the eastern horizon with a dirty pallor, neighbors darted from one house to another exchanging news. Each homecoming miner was questioned.

"As the morning drew on, Emil did not return. I started for the mine. Many men were going the same way, and I joined one of the groups. Silently I plodded up Anaconda Road with them, listening to the talk. Other miners were returning. We could instantly recognize a miner that had escaped out of Granite Mountain. He was escorted by several people, perhaps a wife or a child, and on his face appeared a peculiar self-conscious smile.

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"Some stopped to give us a few details of the accident. A power cable caught fire at the bottom of the shaft and had filled the mine with smoke and gas so quickly that few had had time to escape.

"As I reached, the mine and saw smoke pouring out of the shaft, my heart sank. Hundreds of people had gathered outside the fence. Officers bustled them at the gate, keeping a passageway open for ambulances and rescue squads.

All Miners Are Dead

"But the crowd was orderly—only a constant mumble of voices, with here and there a whimper of a woman or child. No live miners were brought to the surface, only dead ones. Some of us climbed upon a box car where we could peek over the fence. Inside men moved about with Draeger gasmasks over their heads—spectral figures, symbolling death itself. Ambulances and undertaker buses were parked at the shaft mouth.

"When a cage came up with a body, we would shout, 'Who is it?'

"'John Boardman,' would come from the rescue squad.

"'John Boardman!' we would relay to the crowd below us.

"Perhaps a woman would start to sob. Then a black bus would pull out of the yard and through the crowds, honking and racing the motor loudly to scare the people back.

"After several hours I started home. Emil was still among the hundreds missing.

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"The middle of Anaconda Road was kept clear by the ambulances snorting down the hill, their brakes squealing as they held back their loads of dead miners.

Emil Is Found

"The accident was a 'break' for the undertakers—one hundred sixty-three bodies when the final count was made! The morticians had to work overtime to take care of the rush. Some of the miners were not found until three days after the fire, their bodies in an advanced state of decomposition—a condition that make the work of the undertakers quite, disagreeable. . . .

"Emil was among those found last. He was discovered at the end of a drift with a jumper thrown over his head and his body across the end of a compressed-air pipe. The supply of air had been cut off when falling timbers had broken all underground connections. He was immediately sealed in a casket and tucked away in the cemetery, never to be viewed by his friends."

Mine Owners Responsible

The tragic death of Emil Anderson and his 162 companions in the Granite Mountain mine disaster, so touchingly related by Mr. Nyland, has been repeated time after time in the years that have followed due largely to the fact that the mine owners because of the expense refuse to install the well known devices and methods tested for their efficiency in safeguarding the miners' lives.

This unpatriotic attitude of mining magnates is of course the result of the policy that demands larger and larger profits for mine capitalists even though the result is to spread death among the miners, without whose service the mining properties would not be worth a cent.

Steel Barons Perfect Plans For War on Union Employes

Chicago.—Preparations for the threatened strike in the steel industry were started in the mills owned by many of the anti-union steel barons in the Calumet industrial region. Powerful searchlights have been mounted within the grounds of some plants and others reported they had established cafeterias and sleeping quarters in the mills for those who would not join in the strike, if it is called.

Representatives of the Amalgamated Iron, Steel and Tin Workers planned to strike unless the companies acceded to their request for recognition of the union as the agency to bargain collectively with the employers for members of the union.

BABCOCK FLAYS ATTACK ON CIVIL SERVICE LAW

Says Spoils System Returns in Plan for 200 Political Jobs in General Accounting Office

Washington.—Vigorous objection to the appointment of 400 to 500 additional employes of the General Accounting Office "without regard to civil service laws" was registered by E. Claude Babcock, president of the American Federation of Government Employes, affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, at the meeting of the Senate Appropriations Committee which was considering the deficiency bill already approved by the House of Representatives. He asked the committee to eliminate from the bill the provision which would pave the way for filling the places with political appointees regardless of their qualifications.

Mr. Babcock pointed out that the General Accounting Office must give final approval to the expenditure of many billions of dollars. He said it is important that it be staffed by persons, whom, he believes can be selected from the civil service eligible list, should be appointed.

In stressing the magnitude of the work he told the committee that Comptroller General McCarl expects to handle more than 12,000,000 vouchers and 71,000,000 checks for the various Government departments, bureaus and administrations.

Mr. Babcock listed half a dozen or more reasons why he thought political appointees should not audit the accounts and receive the $1,000,000 appropriated for salaries. He concluded that political appointments "without regard to the civil service laws," would constitute a serious encroachment on the merit system and "invite irregularities." In stating his objections, he expressed belief that the "injection of political set-up might lead to "rascality and thievery."

MINNESOTA LABOR URGED TO SUPPORT SHIPSTEAD

Has Fine Record on Federal Labor Legislation, Green Says

Washington.—A glowing tribute to the friendliness of Senator Henrik Shipstead of Minnesota for the interests of working men and women is paid by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor in a letter to Organized Labor in that State urging complete support of the Senator in his campaign for re-election to the United States Senate.

"My record with the general political policy of the American Federation of Labor," Mr. Green said, "I am appealing to the members of organized labor and their friends in Minnesota to rally to the support of Senator Shipstead, who is a candidate for re-election to the United States Senate.

"I am justified in making this recommendation because the record of Senator Shipstead has been one-hundred per cent favorable upon labor measures considered and acted upon by the Congress of the United States ever since he has been a Member of the United States Senate.

"I urge Organized Labor and its friends to give a full measure of support to Senator Shipstead both in the primary and general elections. He is deserving of the full support of Organized Labor. It is your obligation then to support him because of the very fine and perfect record which he has made in behalf of labor measures.

"We must stand by our friends when they are candidates for reelection. We must show by our votes that we will stand by them when they have stood with us and that we will work to defeat them when they have failed to support Labor's measures.

"Labor in Minnesota is presented with an opportunity to reelect a real champion of labor by giving wholehearted support to Senator Shipstead for nomination and reelection."

SOVIET UNION SENTENCES SIX GRAFTERS TO DEATH

Moscow, U. S. S. R.—The determination of the Soviet Government to stamp out graft by the severest penalty of death by the firing squad to six men who were the most grievous offenders among twenty-two persons tried for a ten-day trial at Kiev, in the Ukraine. Fourteen of the lesser offenders in the prison terms ranging from two to ten years, and nine others were sentenced to one-year terms at hard labor.

The charges against them were giving and taking bribes, misappropriating of State property, filching and selling of manufactured goods; speculating in foreign money on the "black bourse," a very serious offense in the Soviet Union, and "violation of Socialist discipline."

The trial was held in the Supreme Court of the Ukrainian Soviet Republic. The passing of the sentences was preceded by a denunciation by the prosecuting attorney, who pointed out that since industry was the province of the Soviet State anything that interfered with industry partook of the nature of treason.

Bankrupt Company's Chief Paid $50,113 As Receiver

Washington. — Edward W. Backus, president of the Minnesota and Ontario Paper Company which went bankrupt even after his concern was declared bankrupt, according to his testimony before a sub-committee of the Senate Judiciary Committee, which is investigating gambling in receiverships, Backus said he received $50,113 while acting as receiver for the company, but declared it was under a court order.

Hayes Says Legion Wants Profit Taken Out of War

Savannah, Ga.—Edward A. Hayes, national commander of the American Legion, in an address here before the Georgia department of that organization, emphasized the Legion's plan for universal service as a policy to advance the cause of peace, adding:

"Its main purpose would be to prevent any profit in war. Its enactment would cost nothing and it would never be used unless war is forced upon us."

Under the plan every resource of capital, labor and man-power would be required to give equal service with profit to none, he said.

DR. RYAN HITS LOW WAGES, HIGH PROFITS

New York.—A strong condemnation of the policy which sets up maximum returns for those who own and control industry and low living standards for those who do most of the useful work characterized the address by Dr. John R. Ryan, professor of moral theology and industrial ethics at the Catholic University of Washington, D. C., before 1,500 teachers here. Dr. Ryan said:

"We are witnessing the senility of the capitalist philosophy. Ever since the industrial revolution, business men have declared that they could pay the lowest wages and make the highest profits without interfering with the welfare of business.

"They believed that the process would go on automatically; that they could produce indefinite amounts of goods and that these quantities of goods would automatically find markets. They did not believe that it was necessary to give the masses enough money to buy the goods."

Advocates Living Wage

Claiming that business men have flouted the right of labor to a living wage, Dr. Ryan said they would be better off today if they had applied that policy, adding:

"A few of them have, indeed, come to realize that good ethics is also good business.

"The most critical question confronting the capitalist system is whether the opinions of these few enlightened business men will prevail, or whether they will be ignored by the directors of industry.

"The new industrial system, the new economic society, will occupy a middle ground between Capitalism and Communism, between Individualism and Socialism."

STANDARD OIL CHISELS PAY, HOURS, IS CHARGE

Washington.—L. S. Scott, chairman of the petroleum code committee for the District of Columbia, refused to award the new Blue Eagle to the Standard Oil Company, the American Oil Company and several independent dealers here.

Mr. Scott said his action was based upon completed complaints against the oil companies and declared that the committee had positive evidence that the companies named were "guilty of repeated and flagrant violations of the provisions of the code as regards the giving of discounts and the labor provisions both as to hours and wages."

"The petroleum code committee," he added, "has unquestioned authority to refuse to award the new Blue Eagle, which is a symbol of strict observance of all code provisions, to any concern that violates any provision of the code."

Tax Large Incomes to Pay for Relief, N. Y. Women Say

New York.—Among the hundred or more suggestions received by Mayor LaGuardia on the question of methods for financing city relief this summer was one urging that the newly organized League that whatever taxes are raised for relief should fall on persons in the higher income brackets rather than those in the lower. If incomes must be taxed at all for relief, the league suggested, an exemption should be granted on incomes of married persons up to $50 a week.

The Citizens' Union, on the other hand, evidently believes that the cost of relief for the jobless should be paid by the masses with the well-to-do and the rich largely exempted, urging a 2 per cent tax on the fares of all conveyances, or a cent on the subways and two cents on the dime-fare buses.

Pardon from Gov. Merriam Will Be Sought by Mooney

San Francisco, Calif.— Gov. Frank Merriam, who took office on the death of Gov. James Rolph, Jr., will be asked for an immediate pardon for Thomas Mooney, serving a life sentence in San Quentin Prison for alleged complicity in the 1916 Preparedness Parade bombing here, it was announced by Mooney's attorneys.

The pardon application will be independent of the legal proceedings pending in Federal courts of this district and of the U. S. Supreme court on a petition for executive intercession before President Roosevelt, Attorney George T. Davis said.

Mooney has never applied for a parole, contending such action would be an admission of guilt, but has sought an outright pardon. The last application, made before Governor Rolph in 1932, was refused.

Argentine Government Curbs Standard Oil Trust Scheme

Buenos Aires.—A ruling of the Attorney General denied the right of the Standard Oil Company, an American corporation, to buy up and otherwise absorb subsidiary, associated or competing companies on the ground that such action is contrary to the public interest.

The ruling was the outgrowth of the National Government's refusal in June of last year to permit the Standard Oil Company of Argentina to increase its capital from 50,000,000 to 200,000,000 pesos to expand operations and take in several subsidiaries and associates.

40,000 IDLE GET JOBS BY LOANS TO RAILROADS

Washington.—Public works loans to railroads were estimated by public works officials here to have given jobs to 40,000 railway employes and 60,000 other workers.

The $200,000,000 allotted 33 lines, more than $57,000,000 has been spent. Railroads have asked the Public Works Administration they would use the balance by the year's end—around $20,000,000 of it in June.

The Pennsylvania's New York-Washington electrification project—the biggest private construction job now under way in the world—is taking products of 2,500 industrial plants, some of which had been closed for months. It is drawing materials from 25 States, public works officials said.

SECURITY FOR JOBS, HOMES AND OLD AGE ASKED BY ROOSEVELT

Unemployment Insurance, Pensions for Aged and Home Modernization Urged for Consideration of Next Congress.

Washington.—A broad plan to promote the prosperity of the masses of America in their homes, their jobs and during old age was submitted to Congress by President Roosevelt in a message setting forth proposals for social security for the consideration of the next Congress, which convenes the first week in January, 1935.

Home life, the President said, must be enhanced by modernizing existing homes and building new ones, coupled with better use of the nation's land and water resources with special attention to those areas of the millions of jobless workers as well as to farmers now trying to eke out a living on submarginal or unproductive land.

Social Insurance

On the questions of unemployment insurance and pensions for destitute aged the President said:

"Fear and worry based on unknown dangers constitute the main source of economic demoralization. If, in our Constitution tells us, our Federal Government was empowered among other things to promote the general welfare, it is our plain duty to provide for that security upon which welfare depends.

"Next winter we may well undertake the first task of putting the whole security of the citizen and his family through social insurance.

"This is not an untried experiment. Lessons of experience are available from States, from industries and from many nations of the civilized world. The various types of social insurance are interrelated; and I think it is difficult to attempt to solve them piecemeal. Hence, I am looking for a sound means which I can recommend to provide at once security against several of the hazards to which our citizens are especially those which relate to unemployment and old age.

"Three principles should be a maximum of cooperation between States and the Federal Government. I believe that the funds necessary to provide this insurance should be raised by contributions, collected by an increase in general taxation.

"Above all, I am convinced that social insurance should be national in scope, although the several States should meet at least a large portion of the cost of management, leaving to the Federal Government the responsibility of investing, maintaining and safeguarding the funds constituting the necessary insurance reserves.

"I have commenced to make, with the greatest care, the necessary actuarial and other studies for the formulation of plans for the consideration of the Seventy-fourth Congress."

Wages Must Be Maintained

In concluding his message, the President declared:

"We cannot dedicate ourselves anew to a recovery of the old and sacred possessive rights for which mankind has consistently struggled—right to livelihood and individual security. The road to these values is the way of progress. Neither you nor I will rest content until we tell we have done our utmost to move further on that road."

ANN ARBOR PRESS GUILTY OF VICTIMIZING UNION MEN

Detroit, Mich.—The Detroit Regional Labor Board found the management of the Ann Arbor Press, Ann Arbor, Mich., guilty of having discriminated against two of its employes for their union activities.

The complaint was filed by the Ann Arbor Trades and Labor Assembly on behalf of two members of the newly organized Ann Arbor local of the International Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union of North America. One of the men, the secretary of the union, was discharged shortly after he took office; the other man, well known by his associates as a competent workman, was dismissed for "incompetency."

The Regional Labor Board found that both had been "discriminated against by the Ann Arbor Press and discharged for union activities." The board recommended that they be "reinstated and paid for lost time."

A writ of habeas corpus and union rights under the NRA the board found has been violated by the Ann Arbor Press interfered with the rights of its employes to organize a union."

DEPOSIT INSURANCE HELPS BANKS, VANDENBERG SAYS

Washington. — Senator Arthur H. Vandenberg of Michigan vigorously criticized the reactionaries who assail insurance of bank deposits.

Since the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation came into existence January 1, only two small National banks in the country, he declared.

In each of these cases, the F. D. I. C. funds reached only small depositors to the full extent of its liability as soon as receivers are appointed in accordance with State law, he said, adding:

"In the entire history of the Republican party there has never been a period when only two banks closed. It is an amazing proof of the restoration of public confidence in our banks effected by the F. D. I. C. This corporation is the main asset bequeathed to the recovery structure. The public is convinced it has come to stay and must not be ripped apart."

Wage Racket Is Charged By Pennsylvania Miners

Wilkes-Barre, Pa.—Grievances from members of the United Mine Workers came before Virgin Island Green, of Scranton, anthracite Conciliation Board, for the first time since the umpire was designated to act as agent for the National Labor Board.

The complaints were filed under a ruling by the National Labor Board ordering all miners' complaints heard regardless of union affiliation.

In one of the grievances, Local Union No. 408, United Mine Workers of Shickshinny charged they were victims of a "racket" that cost the men $25,000 in wages owed by operators who defaulted payrolls.

SHORTER WORK WEEK AND HIGHER WAGES ARE DEMANDED BY WAGNER

New York Senator Condemns NRA Code Employers for Grabbing Big Increase in Profits and Refusing Pay Advances and Reduced Hours.

Washington.—Vigorous criticism of the manifest determination of employers operating under codes of fair competition established by authority of the National Recovery Administration to refuse to increase mass buying power by raising wages coupled with their equally manifest determination to refuse to reduce the length of the work week to provide employment for our millions of idle, all in the face of mounting profits, was voiced by Senator Robert F. Wagner in a speech in the Senate in defense of the original principles underlying the Recovery Program.

Just Return to Industry and Labor

"A balance between the return to industry and the return to labor is at the very core of economic stability, and it is here that the New Deal program seems in greatest need of immediate attention," he said.

"During the period between June and October, 1933, hours of work were reduced 15 per cent and employment increased 19 per cent, although production was declining by 17 per cent.

Hours Lengthened, Earnings Cut

"Paradoxical as it may seem, subsequent improvements in the general condition of business have been accompanied by increasing unwillingness to reduce hours and to raise wages. Between October, 1933, and March, 1934, production increased over 11 per cent. During the first quarter of 1934, corporation earnings have been three times as great as during the same period last year. Out of 670 dividend changes reported by Standard Statistics, 515 were favorable, as compared with only 155 a year ago.

"But this latter period has witnessed a gain of only 1.5 per cent in employment, hours of labor have been actually lengthened by one-half hour per week, and the real earnings of the individual worker are not appreciably greater than they were in March, 1933.

Injustice Breeds Violence

"If the return of prosperity, as measured by increased industrial output and higher profits, is going to be accompanied by a desire to return to the wage philosophy of the 1920's, additional and more serious depressions are only a matter of a few years.

"The wage problem is not merely a technical question of providing enough purchasing power to keep industry running at full speed. We are not justify ourselves of stopping short when that level is reached. We must go on to **create a fairer system, in which the worker will share equitably in our great wealth and in each increment in industry. To deny this right to men who are intelligent will breed injustice and violence.**

"The same principles apply to hours of labor. Most of the maximum hour scales are far too high even by the narrow test of re-employment measures. They are indefensible when contrasted with the number of hours that people shall be required to work in a highly industrialized civilization."

Home Work Ends for 10,000 Embroiderers; Code Abolishes Wages of 10 Cents an Hour

New York.—Home work for approximately 10,000 women and children was officially ended when embroidery work was removed from the home to the factory by the code of fair competition for the blouse, underwear, bonnas and hand-embroidery industry. The figure was announced by Ivar Axelson, executive director of the Code Authority for that industry.

"This is a historic event in the fight against child labor," said Mr. Axelson. "Wages of 25 cents an hour must be paid in the factory instead of old home rates which usually run less than 10 cents an hour, and children under 16 years of age may not work children in the homes.

"There has been some difficulty about enforcing home-work regulations in codes, due to the sentiment against depriving physically incapitated and bedridden people of the right to do work in the home. That obstacle has now been removed by President Roosevelt's Executive order of May 16 which exempts physically incapacitated persons and such persons who must stay at home to attend a bed-ridden person or invalid. The New York State Department of Labor is to receive applications for such exemptions from parties.

"The embroideries are the second largest group of home workers in New York City to be moved into the factory, the largest having been that in the men's wearing apparel trade in which home work was abolished on December 1 of last year."

Mr. Axelson disclosed that a squad of inspectors had been organized by the code Authority strictly to enforce the prohibition of home work. The squad will be assisted by the National Child Labor Committee.

NEWSPAPER GUILD ADOPTS PLAN FOR NEWS "ETHICS"

St. Paul, Minn.—A Utopian code of ethics for news writers was adopted by delegates to the 76 cities at the end of the first convention here of the American Newspaper Guild. The main provisions in the code were:

"The newspaper man's first duty is to give the public accurate and unbiased news reports.

"Mastery of all men before the law should be observed. Newspaper men should not be prejudiced by economic, social, racial or religious prejudices.

"News accounts dealing with persons accused of crime should be in such form as not to mislead or prejudice public opinion.

Sources of confidential information should not be revealed.

The guild should work against suppression of news by privileged persons or groups, including advertisers, commercial powers and friends of newspaper men.

The convention also adopted a resolution calling for "freedom of conscience" to tell the truth accurately, not to distort or suppress facts such as might affect the economic, industrial or military wars.

Heywood Broun of New York was re-elected president. Jonathan Eddy of New York, executive secretary, and Emmet Crozier of Newark, N. J., treasurer, also were re-elected. New York was named vice president at large and 13 district vice presidents chosen.

MUNICIPAL LIGHT PLANT MAKES JOBS FOR 2,000

Camden, N. J.—City officials announced that the Federal Public Works Administration at Washington had approved Camden's application for a Federal loan totaling $6,000,000 for the construction of a municipal electric light plant.

Under plans submitted by the city with its application work on the project would start within three months after receipt of the money and would be finished within two years. It would be built on city-owned ground and would mean employment to 2,000 men over the two-year period. Electric rates 20 per cent lower than those of the Public Service Electric and Gas Company, now serving the city, are promised.

The project was approved by the city by a vote of 22,730 to 9,160 at a referendum election. The ground breaking ceremonies will be held in the near future.

European Employers Buck World-Wide 40-Hour Week

Geneva, Switz.—Expressing their almost unanimous opposition to standardised shorter hour in all countries employers' representatives affiliated with the League of Nations, employers' delegates in the International Labor Conference in session here notified the conference that they had decided not to participate in discussions on a convention for the world-wide application of the forty-hour week, decided upon at a previous session.

"The employers said they would regard Gino Olivetti, Italian employer, who stands alone in favoring the proposal, as their observer in the deliberations and would reserve their attitude to the convention until it is completed.

"Consideration of the proposal preceded with the workers' delegates and the official government representatives, refraining the convention from the original draft.

TRAMMELL IS WORKERS' FRIEND, GREEN ASSERTS

Record in Congress Warrants Support by Florida Labor

Washington. — The importance of working men and women in Florida in the fight for support of Senator Park Trammell in his campaign for renomination in the United States Senate was stressed by William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, in a letter addressed to Central Labor Organizations" in that State.

"In politics there can be no doubt of the renomination and reelection of Senator Park Trammell of Florida I wish to urge all organized labor workers and their sympathetic friends to work as they never worked before for his success in the race which is to be held June 26," Mr. Green's letter said.

"Information has come to me that powerful interests have been spending great sums of money in the State in the hope of defeating the Senator.

"The non-partisan political policy of the American Federation of Labor has for its purpose the election of friends of labor to Congress.

"We know Senator Trammell and we know that his record in the past assures that his election will continue in the United States Senate a friend of labor and the people.

"Senator Trammell has made enemies because he has favored remedial legislation and was opposed to measures that were not in the interest of the people.

"Let me urge every member of a trade union to appoint himself a committee of one to work and vote in the coming election for a friend of labor. This declaration of the American Federation of Labor should govern your actions:

"'Stand faithfully by our friends and elect them. Oppose our enemies and defeat them; whether they be candidates for President, for Congress or for offices, or whether Executive, Legislative or Judicial.'

"I am sure that by following this declaration the success of Senator Trammell will be assured."

MINE WORKERS TRANSFER OFFICE TO WASHINGTON

Indianapolis, Ind.—Officials of the United Mine Workers of America perfected preparations for the removal of the organization's headquarters from Indianapolis to Washington, D. C.

The International Executive Board was called into session at the close of the convention last January to arrange for transfer of the office to Washington.

Removal of the office files and fixtures to the new headquarters will be completed in July.

The union originally had its headquarters at Columbus, Ohio, but shortly after the turn of the century 25 years ago Indianapolis was selected for the more central office.

John L. Lewis, president of the union, and a number of other officials have been maintaining offices most of their time in Washington since the national recovery program was inaugurated.

Sugar Refinery Is Closed By Coast Shipping Strike

San Francisco, Calif.—The California and Hawaiian Sugar Company announced that its refinery at Crockett, Calif., would be closed indefinitely. Closing is due to stoppage of sugar deliveries from Hawaiian refineries by the Coast shipping strike.

The company also announced simultaneously advance in wages of employes from basic rate of 50 cents an hour to 60 cents with other proportionate adjustments.